

Advanced Placement Psychology

College Board Course Description:

The AP Psychology course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with major units of study, including biological bases of behavior, cognition, development, learning, social psychology, personality, and mental and physical health. Throughout the course, students apply psychological concepts and employ psychological research methods and data interpretation to evaluate claims, consider evidence, and effectively communicate ideas.

Grade Level: 11th-12th Grades

Course Framework

The new AP Psychology course increases the focus on scientific practice. The content and skills taught in the course are aligned with college-level psychology courses and the American Psychological Association's Introductory Psychology Initiative.

- Four science practices will be embedded throughout the course:
 1. Concept Application: Apply psychological perspectives, theories, concepts, and research findings.
 2. Research Methods and Design: Evaluate qualitative and quantitative research methods and study designs.
 3. Data Interpretation: Evaluate representations of psychological concepts in quantitative and qualitative research, including tables, graphs, charts, figures, and diagrams.
 4. Argumentation: Develop and justify psychological arguments using evidence.
- All AP Psychology content falls within 5 overarching units. These units comprise the content and conceptual understandings that universities typically expect students to be proficient in to qualify for college credit.
 1. Biological Bases of Behavior
 2. Cognition
 3. Development and Learning
 4. Social Psychology and Personality
 5. Mental and Physical Health

AP Psychology Exam

Students who complete this course may take the AP Psychology Exam to earn college credit for an introductory-level psychology course.

This national exam features

- 75 Multiple Choice Questions
- 1 Article Analysis Question
- 1 Evidence Based Question